REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18, 19 and 23 have been allowed. Claims 20-22 have now been cancelled, thereby obviating the objective thereto.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and prompt Notice of Allowance of all of the pending claims are earnestly solicited

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are due to this paper to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 for Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc., Bridgewater, NJ. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1982.

Respectfully submitteds,

Irving Newman, Reg. No. 22,638 Attorney/Agent for Applicant

sanofi-aventis U.S. LLC U.S. Patent Operations Route #202-206 / P.O. Box 6800 Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807-0800 Telephone: 908-231-2785

Telephone: 908-231-2785 Telefax: 908-231-2626

sanofi-aventis Docket No. DEAV2002/0046 US NP